



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/863,897	05/23/2001	Anna Karri	944-003.088	9365

4955 7590 11/16/2005

WARE FRESSOLA VAN DER SLUYS &  
ADOLPHSON, LLP  
BRADFORD GREEN BUILDING 5  
755 MAIN STREET, P O BOX 224  
MONROE, CT 06468

EXAMINER
----------

CUMMING, WILLIAM D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2683

DATE MAILED: 11/16/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/863,897

Applicant(s)

KARRI, ET AL

Examiner

WILLIAM D. CUMMING

Art Unit

2683

– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 August 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2 and 4-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, and 4-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Arguments*

1. In view of the Appeal Brief filed on August 17, 2005, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED. New grounds of rejection set forth below.
2. To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following two options:
  - (1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or,
  - (2) request reinstatement of the appeal.
3. If reinstatement of the appeal is requested, such request must be accompanied by a supplemental appeal brief, but no new amendments, affidavits (37 CFR 1.130, 1.131 or 1.132) or other evidence are permitted. See 37 CFR 1.193(b)(2).
4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 2, and 4-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground of rejection.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

5. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

6. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

7. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

8. Claims 1, 11, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Kim** in view of **Wakatsuki and Carpenter, et al**

**Kim** disclose all subject matter, note paragraph 2 of the Office action dated May 19, 2004, except for the plurality of frames to be frames of a funny and the sending terminal assembling the plurality of messages in a desired order according to inputs by a user.

Applicants admit on page 2 of the specification that it is well known in the art to download actual comic strips from wireless application protocol sites.

**Wakatsuki** teaches the use of a plurality of frames to be frames of a funny (note figures 7a-7c) in a method and apparatus for use conveying a plurality of messages from a sending terminal for the purpose of displaying a frame of a comic strip (funny) on the display one by one in the order set. Hence, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the claimed invention was made to incorporate the well known use, as admitted by applicant, for the plurality of frames to be frames of a funny, as taught by **Wakatsuki** for the purpose of displaying a frame of a comic strip (funny) on the display one by one in the order set, in the a method and apparatus for use conveying a plurality of messages from a sending terminal of **Kim** in order to sequentially display frames of comic strips or funnies.

**Carpenter, et al** teaches the use of the sending terminal assembling the plurality of messages in a desired order according to inputs by a user (column 7, lines 10-25) in a method for conveying a plurality of messages for the purpose of the user to prioritized and reorders what messages to be sent. Hence, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the claimed invention was made to incorporate the sending terminal assembling the plurality of messages in a desired order according to inputs by a user as taught by **Carpenter, et al**, for the purpose of the user to prioritized and reorders what messages to be sent, in the method for conveying a plurality of messages of **Kim**

in order to transmit the messages in the order that they were requested by the user.

9. Claims 2, 4-8, 12-18, and 21-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Kim** in view of **Wakatsuki** and **Carpenter, et al** as applied to the claims above, and further in view of **Shiimori** for the same reason as stated by paragraph 4 of the Office action dated August 25, 2004.

10. Claims 9 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Kim** in view of **Wakatsuki** and **Carpenter, et al** as applied to the claims above, and further in view of **Lundstrom, et al** for the same reason as stated in paragraph 5 of the Office action dated May 18, 2004.

### ***Conclusion***

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Dimitriadis, et al disclose a low cost acknowledge-back system for a pager includes a small, portable plug-in module with a telephone connector for coupling to an existing telephone network. Paging devices interact with plug-in modules through a wireless infrared (IR) link. When a paging device comes within communication range of a module, automated interaction therebetween allows the paging device to acknowledge to a paging system successful delivery of a

given paging message. The system further includes multiple levels of acknowledgement including acknowledgement of message receipt and message read events at the paging device. Further, the system includes automatic and manual response functions allowing the user of the paging device to initiate automatically or manually a telephone connection using the telephone number of a telephone number message to respond to a given telephone number message.

**12. United States Postal Service Interruption and Emergency under 35 U.S.C.21(a)**

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is designating the interruption in service of the United States Postal Service (USPS) in the areas affected by Hurricane Katrina in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida on August 28, 2005, as a postal service interruption and an emergency within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 21(a) and 37 CFR 1.10(i) and 2.195(e). Postal services in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida have been suspended intermittently since Sunday, August 28, 2005, due to Hurricane Katrina. To determine whether a post office has been closed or postal services have been suspended in a particular area due to Hurricane Katrina, contact the post office directly or visit the USPS's Web site at: <http://www.usps.gov>.

As soon as the USPTO receives further information from the USPS as to when postal services in the affected areas will be resumed, the USPTO will post updated information regarding this situation on the USPTO Web site (<http://www.uspto.gov>) and in the Official Gazette.

**13. United States Postal Service Interruption and Emergency under 35 U.S.C. 21(a)**

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is designating the interruption in service of the United States Postal Service (USPS) in the areas affected by Hurricane Rita in Louisiana and Texas on September 23, 2005, as a postal service interruption and an emergency within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 21(a) and 37 CFR 1.10(i) and 2.195(e).

Postal services in Louisiana and Texas have been suspended intermittently since Friday, September 23, 2005, due to Hurricane Rita. To determine whether a post office has been closed or postal services have been suspended in a particular area due to

Hurricane Rita, contact the post office directly or visit the USPS's Web site at: <http://www.usps.gov>.

As soon as the USPTO receives further information from the USPS as to when postal services in the affected areas will be resumed, the USPTO will post updated information regarding this situation on the USPTO Web site (<http://www.uspto.gov>) and in the Official Gazette.

#### Patent-Related Correspondence

37 CFR 1.10(i) addresses interruptions or emergencies in USPS "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service that are designated by the Director for patent-related correspondence. Correspondence covered by 37 CFR 1.10 that would have been filed with the USPTO under 37 CFR 1.10 during this USPS service interruption, but which was not filed due to the USPS service interruption, should be filed promptly after the termination of the USPS service interruption with a petition in accordance with 37 CFR 1.10(i) using "Express Mail" service in accordance with 37 CFR 1.10.

The provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 21(a) and 37 CFR 1.10(i) apply only to postal interruptions and emergencies. The provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 21(a) and 37 CFR 1.10(i) do not provide for the granting of a filing date to correspondence as of the date on which it would have been filed but for other exigencies, such as the unavailability of an office or building other than a USPS facility. These provisions apply only if the post office was closed or "Express Mail" service suspended in the affected areas on the specified date due to Hurricane Rita.

37 CFR 1.10(i) provides that any person attempting to file correspondence by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service that was unable to be deposited with the USPS due to an interruption or emergency in "Express Mail" service which has been so designated by the Director may petition the Director to consider such correspondence as filed on a particular date in the Office. 37 CFR 1.10(i) specifically provides that: any person attempting to file correspondence under this section that was unable to be deposited with the USPS due to an interruption or emergency in "Express Mail" service which has been so designated by the Director, may petition the Director to consider such correspondence as filed on a particular date in the Office, provided that:

(1) the petition is filed in a manner designated by the Director promptly after the person becomes aware of the designated interruption or emergency in "Express Mail" service;

(2) the petition includes the original correspondence or a copy of the original correspondence; and

(3) the petition includes a statement which establishes, to the satisfaction of the Director, that the correspondence would have been deposited with the USPS but for the designated interruption or emergency in "Express Mail" service, and that the correspondence or copy of the correspondence is the original correspondence or a true copy of the correspondence originally attempted to be deposited with the USPS on the requested filing date.

Patent-related inquiries concerning this notice may be directed to Eugenia Jones, Senior Legal Advisor in the Office of Patent Legal Administration, at (571) 272-7704 or at [PatentPractice@uspto.gov](mailto:PatentPractice@uspto.gov).



### Trademark-Related Correspondence

37 CFR 2.195(e) and 2.198 address interruptions or emergencies in USPS "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service that are designated by the Director for trademark-related correspondence. Correspondence covered by 37 CFR 2.198 that would have been filed with the USPTO under 37 CFR 2.198 during this USPS service interruption, but which was not filed due to the USPS service interruption, should be filed promptly after the termination of the USPS service interruption with a petition in accordance with 37 CFR 2.146 and 2.198.

The provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 21(a) and 37 CFR 2.195(e) apply only to postal interruptions and emergencies. These provisions do not provide for the granting of a filing date to correspondence as of the date on which it would have been filed but for other exigencies, such as the unavailability of an office or building other than a USPS facility. These provisions apply only if the post office was closed or "Express Mail" service suspended in the affected areas on the specified date due to Hurricane Rita.

Under 37 CFR 2.195(e) and 2.198, any person attempting to file correspondence by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service that was unable to be deposited with the USPS due to the interruption or emergency in "Express Mail" service in the areas designated in this notice may petition the Director to consider such correspondence as filed on a particular date in the Office. The petition must:

- (1) Be filed promptly after the ending of the designated interruption or emergency in "Express Mail" service;
- (2) Include the original correspondence or a copy of the original correspondence; and
- (3) Include a statement which establishes, to the satisfaction of the Director, that (1) the correspondence would have been deposited with the USPS but for the designated interruption or emergency in "Express Mail" service, and (2) the correspondence or copy of the correspondence is the original correspondence or a true copy of the correspondence originally attempted to be deposited with the USPS on the requested filing date.

Please note that under 37 CFR 2.101(b)(2), 2.102(a)(2) and 2.198(a)(1), the Express Mail procedures cannot be used for the following types of correspondence: applications for registration of marks; amendments to allege use under 15 U.S.C. § 1051(c); statements of use under 15 U.S.C. § 1051(d); requests for extension of time to file a statement of use under 15 U.S.C. § 1051(d); affidavits of continued use under 15 U.S.C. § 1058; renewal applications under 15 U.S.C. § 1059; requests to change or correct addresses; combined filings under 15 U.S.C. §§ 1058 and 1059; combined affidavits or declarations under 15 U.S.C. §§ 1058 and 1065; responses to notices of irregularity under 37 CFR 7.14; requests for transformation under 37 CFR 7.31; notices of opposition to applications based on 15 U.S.C. § 1141f(a); and requests for extensions of time to oppose applications based on 15 U.S.C. § 1141f(a). Moreover, 37 CFR 2.197 (certificate of mailing procedure) does not provide for according a filing date as of the date of deposit with the USPS. Therefore, it would be inappropriate to file a petition seeking a filing date as of the date of deposit of the types

of correspondence listed in 37 CFR 2.101(b)(2), 2.102(a)(2) and 2.198(a)(1) as Express Mail, or as of the date on a certificate of mailing under 37 CFR 2.197.

Trademark-related inquiries concerning this notice may be directed to Mary Hannon, Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Trademark Examination Policy, at (571) 272-9569.

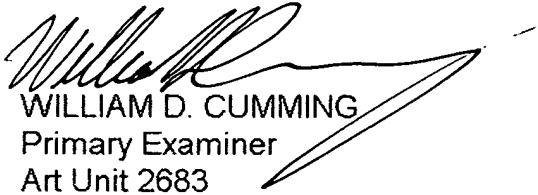
Date: 9/27/05 /SI/

14. If applicants wish to request for an interview, an *"Applicant Initiated Interview Request"* form (PTOL-413A) should be submitted to the examiner prior to the interview in order to permit the examiner to prepare in advance for the interview and to focus on the issues to be discussed. This form should identify the participants of the interview, the proposed date of the interview, whether the interview will be personal, telephonic, or video conference, and should include a brief description of the issues to be discussed. A copy of the completed *"Applicant Initiated Interview Request"* form should be attached to the Interview Summary form, PTOL-413 at the completion of the interview and a copy should be given to applicant or applicant's representative.

15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to WILLIAM D. CUMMING whose telephone number is 571-272-7861. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 11am-5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Trost can be reached on 571-272-7872. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

16. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
WILLIAM D. CUMMING  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2683


Wdc



UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND  
TRADEMARK OFFICE

---

William Cumming  
Primary Patent Examiner  
[William.Cumming@uspto.gov](mailto:William.Cumming@uspto.gov)

  
WILLIAM TROST  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600